

The Times-Dispatch.

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THE TIMES-DISPATCH, Richmond, Va.

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1904.

The Press and the Schools.

In his address before the Co-operative
Education Commission, during its session
in Norfolk, Hon. J. W. Southall, Superin-
tendent of Public Instruction, declared
that he was greatly discouraged because
the people did not attend educational
meetings. He said that recently one of
the county superintendents attempted to
get up an educational rally, and ad-
dressed by the State Superintendent and
Dr. Robert Frazer. At the appointed
time the speakers appeared, but the au-
dience was composed almost entirely of
women and children. The tax-payers,
whom the speakers desired especially to
address, were not in evidence. There
was present no county official, ex-
cept the county superintendent.

That sort of thing is necessarily dis-
couraging to the friends of education.
If this meeting had been held during an
exciting political campaign, the voters
would have come out to hear the speeches,
and the fact that they did not turn out
to hear two distinguished gentlemen,
who have consecrated themselves to the
cause of education, showed a lamentable
lack of interest. But there is a way of
reaching the tax-payers in all parts of
Virginia. While they may not be willing
to attend public meetings, they read the
newspapers, and the surest way of bring-
ing before them the subject of educa-
tion is through the press. Indeed, one
reason why men do not take the same in-
terest in public speaking that they once
took is that they have fallen into the
habit of reading the newspapers, and they
get, through that medium, much of the
information that they formerly received
from the mouth of public speakers.

The last census reports show that in
1880 the aggregate circulation per issue
of newspapers and periodicals in the
United States was, in round numbers, 20,
000,000. In 1890 the number had increased
to 65,000,000, and in 1900 to 114,000,000.
The number to-day is doubtless 150,000,000,
or thereabouts. In 1880 the aggregate num-
ber of publications issued in the United
States was, in round numbers 2,000,000,000.
In 1890 it had increased to 4,500,000,000,
and in 1900 to 8,100,000,000.

In 1890 there were in the United States
only 287 daily newspapers, with a total
circulation per issue of about one and
a half million. In 1900 there were 2,235
daily newspapers, with a total circulation
of more than 15,000,000. It is safe to say
that the circulation of the daily news-
papers of the United States is to-day in
the neighborhood of 20,000,000.

In 1890 there were 3,175 weekly news-
papers, with a total circulation of 7,000,000.
In 1900 there were 12,275, with a total
circulation of nearly 4,000,000. There has
also been an enormous increase in the
number of monthly publications.

Here are practical hints for the friends
of education—for school superintendents,
teachers and promoters. There should be
public meetings; there should be educa-
tional rallies as often as practicable, and
the promoters of education should be
promptly on hand to address the people
and urge upon them the importance—nay,
the necessity—of educating their children.
But the press should be made the hand-
maiden of the public school system. The
friends of education should lose no op-
portunity to give publicity through the
public press to the cause they represent.
It is through this medium that the people
may be impressed, that public sentiment
may be aroused, and it will not do to
leave it all to the editors themselves.
They are willing to do their part, but
outsiders should contribute brief pointed
communications as many as the news-
papers can conveniently carry, and espe-
cially should they advertise as frequently
as possible what the schools are doing
and the progress of educational move-
ments. There is no newspaper worthy of
the name that will not give space to such
publications. A hint to the wise should
be sufficient.

The Carmack Resolution.

In accordance with the recommenda-
tion of the President, Senator Carmack
has introduced a joint resolution pro-
viding for the appointment of a com-
mission to be composed of members of
the Senate and House to investigate the
collection and expenditure of money by
national committees in the interest of
presidential candidates. The resolution
declares that the committee shall provide
for the publicity of such collections and
expenditures, and that it shall be made
unlawful for any national committee to

collect money from corporations engaged
in interstate commerce.

We hope that the resolution will pass.
It was publicly charged during the last
campaign that the corporations contrib-
uted large sums of money to the Re-
publican campaign fund, and that it was
used for corrupt purposes. Let all the
facts come out and if there were abuses
let us have a law to prevent them in
the future.

There is another phase of this ques-
tion which has not been generally dis-
cussed. The money of corporations be-
longs to the stockholders, and no part
of it should be contributed, if at all,
except by the unanimous consent of the
stockholders. Otherwise Democrats who
are stockholders in a corporation may be
required against their will to pay a part
of their own money into the Republican
campaign fund; or Republican stockhold-
ers may be thus compelled to contribute
to the Democratic fund.

From whatever standpoint viewed the
whole system is wrong in principle, un-
fair to stockholders and contrary to pub-
lic policy, and it should be prohibited
by law. If an individual wishes to give
his money for campaign purposes it is
his own affair, but the corporations oc-
cupy a very different position and they
should be prohibited.

Government and Good Roads.

Senator Lattimer, from the Committee
on Agriculture and Forestry, has re-
ported favorably his good roads bill, which
carries an appropriation of \$24,000,000,
to be available in three annual instal-
ments of \$8,000,000 for road building in
the several States. The bill provides that
the States shall do the work of con-
struction and pay half the cost, the na-
tional government paying the other half.

We confess that we do not like the
principle involved in this measure, but
after all there is very little difference
in principle in government appropriat-
ions for public roads and similar ap-
propriations for river and harbor im-
provement, for irrigation and the like.
The probability is that if all the money
which the government has expended in
river and harbor improvement had been
expended in making good highways, the
country at large would have received
greater benefit. Public roads are greatly
in the interest of national civilization.
They tend to build up the agricultural
districts, making country life more agree-
able and in that way to decentralize the
population by taking the overplus from
the cities and distributing it throughout
the country, and that is a consumma-
tion devoutly to be wished.

We are specially pleased with that fea-
ture of Mr. Lattimer's bill which provides
that the government shall pay half the
cost of road improvement, the States to
pay the other half. In this way many
States, which are making very small ap-
propriations for road building would be
induced to increase them and the work
would be done under intelligent super-
vision.

Tax Receipts.

In yesterday's paper we mentioned
Mayor McCarthy's purpose to introduce
a new tax bill system which will ulti-
mately remove all doubt whether or not
previous taxes have been paid. His plan
is to give receipts which will show every
item due the city to date and will com-
stitute a full and perfect receipt for all
amounts paid.

A year or so ago during a session of
the Legislature our friend, Mr. T. A.
Cary, made a similar suggestion for the
State at large and this paper earnestly
advocated the measure which Mr. Cary
proposed. Mr. Cary's plan was a regu-
lation which would prohibit the treas-
urer of any county or city from giving
a receipt for the taxes of any year in
case the tax-payer was delinquent for a
previous year. For example, if a
tax-payer should offer a sum of money
in payment of his tax bill for the year
1903, but was delinquent for the year 1902,
the treasurer would furnish him a state-
ment showing the entire amount of taxes
for the two years and credit him on ac-
count for the amount paid in; or if the
amount was sufficient to pay the delin-
quent bill he would be given a receipt in
full on that account, leaving the balance
due to be settled thereafter. In this
way his tax receipt or his account with
the credit would show the exact status
of his standing with the treasurer.

Some such system as this should by
all means be adopted, not only in the
city of Richmond, but in all cities and
counties of the State. The slipshod way
of giving a tax receipt for one year
when the tax-payer was delinquent for
other years caused all the abuses and
hardships under the so-called land grab-
bers' act.

Interstate Foot-Ball.

The Norfolk Landmark is taking ad-
vantage of the charges being made of
the continued bad management of the
professional football game in Rich-
mond and is urging a change of law.
It thinks the game should hereafter be
played in Norfolk. We are willing, pro-
vided Norfolk would put a stop to the
grand opera admission prices prevailing
in Richmond—Charlotte News.

The acquiescence of the News in the
Landmark's plea for the transfer of the
game to that city appears to be based
upon a proviso and one which neither the
Landmark nor the city of Norfolk can
guarantee, judging by Richmond's ex-
perience. Norfolk has a perfect right to
ask for the game and to do anything it
may in the way of holding out induc-
ements. Concerning the "grand opera ad-
mission prices," of which our Charlotte
contemporary complains, it may be stated
as a fact that neither the city of Rich-
mond nor the lessees of the park had
anything to do with them. The University
management of the two schools fixed
the prices and had sole charge of all
the arrangements for the game. Judging
by the financial success of the game in
this city at these prices, it does not
seem probable that there will be any
reduction next year, whether the game
be played in Norfolk, Richmond, Char-
lotte or Raleigh. More than ten thou-
sand persons exhibited not merely a will-
ingness, but a positive eagerness, to pay

these prices on Thanksgiving Day, and
the receipts were divided between the ath-
letic associations of the two universities.
As a matter of fact, the lessees of the
park receive but \$125 from the game. If
the boys desire large receipts it would
appear that an eye to their own inter-
ests will again attract them to Rich-
mond for their great annual game.

By next year a better and larger play-
ground is promised, and it is to be hoped
that whatever the prices, the boys will
not sell more seats on the grand-stand
than they can supply.

Women in Civic Life.

One of the most significant features of
the meeting of the Virginia Co-operative
Education Commission in Norfolk was the
large attendance of women. Many of
them came from a distance as delegates
and took an active part in the proceed-
ings. Indeed, it is conceded that two of
the very best addresses were those by two
distinguished women of Richmond—Mrs.
Munford and Mrs. Dashiell—and on all
sides the most complimentary mention of
them was made. The audience, in the
day time especially was largely com-
posed of women, many of them being
teachers, and they gave profound atten-
tion to the addresses.

It is a hopeful sign that the women of
Virginia are giving their talent and time
to this noble work. It means progress;
it means development and better meth-
ods; it means larger appropriations, bet-
ter school houses and better pay for
teachers; for, when the women of Vir-
ginia resolve that a thing shall be done,
it must be done. They have no votes,
but they control the voters, and when
they issue their decrees the voters obey.
The women have made up their minds
that the school system of Virginia shall
be improved in all directions, and the
men might as well make up their minds
to pay the cost, for pay they must. The
women have so ordered.

Wall Street does not seem to know
whether its fit of shivers was caused by
the message of President Roosevelt. There
is fear on the one hand that Lawson has
something up his sleeve for some of the
big corporations, and on the other hand,
fear that the President, in spite of his
fair promises to the contrary, is about
to run amok. Our private opinion is
that the big men simply took advantage
of the first favorable opportunity to
freeze out the little fellows and throw
valuable stocks on the bargain counter.
At any rate, the selling of yesterday and
the day before was disastrous for "weak-
ly margined" accounts and a fine chance
for bargain hunters. Possibly some of
our readers will recall that a little while
ago, The Times-Dispatch gave warning
that stocks were dangerously high, and
that the lambs would do well to recall
the lesson of 1903. The lambs have been
pitilessly sheared.

As a financial problem, Mrs. Cassie
Chadwick is a daisy, and there are lots
of men who would give a large commis-
sion to learn her tricks in trade.

The Honorable Mr. Hefflin, of Ala-
bama, was a disappointed man when no-
body in Congress proposed to investigate
him the other day.

Governor Odell, of New York, seems
inclined to send a fresher joke than De-
pew to the Senate, regardless of his prom-
ise to Senator Platt.

Logically all the pie on Virginia's and
of the counter goes to the Ninth Dis-
trict, and Colonel Slemm is the logical
distributor.

The ground is getting wet at last, and
that latest wail from the farming com-
munity that fall plowing is behind must
die out.

Several long, lean, woefully empty stock-
ings from Virginia will soon be hanging
on the posts and pillars about the White
House.

Now seems to be an opportune time
for the cotton raisers to inaugurate a
lively bull movement, if they know how.

And now the question is: What will
the Japs do with old battered up Port
Arthur after they get it?

Justice John seems times often in that
brand of charity which covers a multi-
tude of sinners.

Mrs. Chadwick does not need any Santa
Claus at her home. She knows how to
fill her own stocking.

This good duck shooting weather must
be awfully tempting to the Hon. C.
Cleveland.

Personal and General.

General Cronje, the Boer officer, will re-
main in this country at least another
year. He expects to spend the winter in
Florida.

Professor Goldwin Smith's recent speech
before the Canadian Club at Ottawa was
said to be his farewell appearance on the
platform.

Prior to sailing for America, Edward
Terry, England's oldest comedian, was
given a banquet on Sunday evening in
London, which was presided over by the
Duke of Abercorn.

The Queen of Portugal, who has been
visiting England, has been called sud-
denly to Turin in consequence of grave
illness of the "old" king, her husband,
the Duke of Sardinia.

Satan owns in fee simple one landed
estate in Finland, it having been willed
to him by his deceased owner, Lars
Hultgren. Repeated attempts to break
the will have failed.

London Cabs.

There are in London 2,711 cab proprietors,
and of these 2,224 own fewer than five
vehicles. As you see, it is a poor man's in-
dustry. There is only one large company,
the London Improved Cab Company, which
owns 500 cabs, in the main, then, the small
proprietors, the "hacks," who own a few cabs
and drive one himself control the trade.

China Coming Slowly.

The 700 shoemakers' shops in Canton, China,
employ 8,000 men and 20,000 women, who work
from daylight to dark. Since the recent in-
crease in the price of leather, the shoes have
been lengthened. They get from about
\$2.50 to \$5 a pair in wages and their meals,
consisting of rice and salt fish.

Dickens in Full.

A catalogue of photographs published
by a London dealer has surprised a good
many people by showing the fact that Charles
Dickens's full name was Charles John Huffam
Dickens.

Capital Is Not Necessary

To enable a man to share in the
present great prosperity of this
country, if he has brains, energy
and persistence.

Any man or woman with these
qualifications can make money
now, and at the same time build
up an income for future years, by
collecting life insurance under the
favorable contract of the Equi-
table Life Assurance Society.

And the next few years are
bound to be good and productive
ones for the earnest, persistent life
insurance agent.

Men of vision and energy and
character who wish to increase
their incomes and who are willing
to take up life insurance as their
life work are invited to apply or
write to

N. SWINERD & SON,

General Agents,
1110 E. Main Street, Richmond, Va.
Correspondence solicited and treat-
ed in confidence.

Half Hour With Virginia Editors

The Fredericksburg Free Lance says:
It was a noble thing that President
Roosevelt is appointing the grandson
of General Stonewall Jackson a cadet at
West Point. This is one long step in
the direction of showing that he is not
unfriendly to the South.

The Portsmouth Star is hopeful. It
says:
Some crumbs of comfort come to the
people of the South and to the conserva-
tives all over the country from Con-
gress. They are not what we would
call a feast, but they do give the appetite
for pessimism till something more substan-
tial takes their place.

The Lynchburg News, which has been
reading up on how they do things out in
Wisconsin, says:
Virginia is an agricultural State, with
a better climate and a greater variety of
products than Wisconsin. Yet an acre of
land in Wisconsin will sell for three
or four times as much as in Virginia.

We come to the least of the reasons in
the articles that ought to be produced at
home, not only in sufficient abundance
for home consumption, but to have a sur-
plus for exportation.

The Bath County Enterprise says:
The greatest fault that can be urged
against the proposed amendment to the
constitution is that it would place in the
hands of the people a power which they
are not qualified to exercise. It would
place in the hands of the people a power
which they are not qualified to exercise.

The editor of The Times-Dispatch
says:
If it were not calculated to do harm it
would be a masterpiece of misanthropy
to see the seriousness with which the news-
papers are discussing the proposed amend-
ment to the constitution. The editors of
newspapers really think there is any fear of such a thing,
or do they simply discuss it to fill
up their columns? To think the former is
to discount the intelligence of the editors,
and to think the latter is to discount the
intelligence of the readers. If not quite
humiliating to find a man who has been
promoted to the position of leader of the
House of Representatives making a spectacle
of himself, as he is reported to have done,
by making such a ridiculous remark, it is
at least a warning to the public that there
is a serious danger in the amendment.

The Platt Bill.

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Franklin County Bond Case.

The Circuit Court of Franklin county
was again convened for the purpose of
trying the case of *Franklin County vs. Hatcher*,
which was argued by Messrs. George M. Harrison
and Judge George M. Harrison.

This is a motion by the plaintiff in
error for judgment against the defend-
ants in error on two grounds. The first
ground is that the defendants in error
are the joint obligors of seven
obligors, of whom H. C. Price, de-
ceased, and H. C. Price, are two. Pre-
sented by the plaintiff in error, the cause was continued
as to him and judgment rendered against
the other six obligors. At the next term
of court a new plea was entered
by the defendant in error, and the cause
was continued, and the cause was con-
tinued, and the cause was continued.

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A Cure for Asthma.

The worst cure of Asthma in the world
succeeds in the end to one great cure
of Asthma. Dr. Randolph Schiffrin
man's Asthma Cure almost performs
miracles.

Mr. R. M. Spencer, 2380 Vermont Ave-
nue, Toledo, O., says: "Asthma has been
growing on me for three years, until last
summer it became so severe that
many nights I spent half the time
gasping for breath. Doctors seemed to
give no relief whatever, and I felt there
was no hope for me when a drug clerk
recommended your Asthma Cure. I
bought a box and used it, and I feel
better than I have for years. I can now
sleep in my bed and give complete
relief in from 2 to 5 minutes."

Sold by all druggists at 50c. and \$1.00.
Send 2c. stamp to Dr. R. Schiffrin,
Box 893, St. Paul, Minn., for a free sam-
ple package.

OPINIONS FROM SUPREME COURT

Three Important Cases Settled
for All Time—Other Mat-
ters Disposed of.

FRANKLIN COURT REVERSED

Judges Buchanan and Harrison
Deal, Respectively, With Bur-
well and Bond Cases.

The Supreme Court of Appeals yester-
day handed down opinions in three im-
portant cases, passed upon a number of
petitions for appeals, etc., heard argu-
ment in one case, and then adjourned
until January 2d, the first day of a new
term.

An application for a writ of prohibition
was denied in the case of *Hill vs. Haney*,
from Alexandria county, involving the
important question of jurisdiction of jus-
tices and other county officers within one
mile of the corporate limits of cities. The
court, in refusing the writ, did not state
its reasons. It is not stated that the
county has exclusive jurisdiction within
each square mile of territory, and county
officers have concurrent jurisdiction in a section
of the county more than one mile from
the city limit. This, however, is
sufficient to settle the question to the
extent of giving county officers jurisdiction
within such territory.

Burwell vs. Burwell.

Judge John A. Buchanan wrote the
opinion in the case of *Burwell vs. Burwell*,
from Franklin county, reversing the
decree of the lower court, and remand-
ing the cause for further proceedings.

In this case, the appellant instituted
a divorce suit against the respondent's
estate to recover on a bond for \$10,000,
given for services rendered his mother
under a contract between the appellant
and his mother for the management of
her farm and business for several years.

The defendant's estate claimed that the
appellant's recovery on the bond is that
he did not keep his agreement with his
mother, and was, therefore, not entitled
to the compensation for which the bond
was given, and that he procured the ex-
ecution of the bond by false representa-
tions and by improper or undue influence
over her. Upon a hearing of the cause
the Circuit Court disallowed the claim,
and from this decree the appeal was al-
lowed.

The appellant court holds that the trans-
actions between persons occupying certain
confidential relations in life are viewed
with jealous vigilance by courts of
equity, but that while the courts deem
it important to watch over and protect
children from the influence of their
parents, the same rule does not apply
where contracts and conveyances are
made by which benefits are secured by
the parent to the children. Such con-
tracts are not presumed to be made
free from suspicion, and the party claim-
ing that they were procured by undue
influence must generally prove it. In
brief, the burden is upon the appellees
to prove that the bond was executed
under the influence of the appellant.

Judge Buchanan says: "While the bond
in this case was executed for services
rendered as agent, they were rendered
under an agreement, which had been ter-
minated more than eight years before,
long after the death of the mother, and
agent created by it had ceased to exist,
and when they had the right to deal with
each other in the same manner as other
persons."

There are of opinion, therefore, that
there were no such confidential relations
existing between the appellant and his
mother, when the bond was executed as
agent, and that the appellant's recovery
on the bond by fraud or undue influence
was upon the appellees."

The evidence did not sustain such a
claim. The court is of opinion that the
bond of appellant is a valid claim against
his mother's estate, and that the ex-
ecution of the bond by fraud or undue
influence, which so found, should have been
overruled and the report confirmed.

The action of the court in charging
the appellant with the rental value of
the lands of his mother's estate held by
him as agent, and assigned for his use,
and the court holds that the trial court
in entering a decree against him for the
rental value of the lands without giving
him opportunity to show what taxes and
other proper charges, if any, paid by
him should be set off against the rental
value of the land, was error. For this
error and disallowance of appellant's debt
the decree appealed from must be re-
versed to that extent, and in other re-
spects affirmed and the cause remanded
for further proceedings.

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